ILLUMINATED

ANCIENT AND MODERN

ALPHABETS

HAND BOOK OF Illuminated Initial LETTERS.

FROM THE 6TH TO THE 18TH CENTURY.

CONTAINING 363 EXAMPLES.

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15th CENTURY.

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16th CENTURY.

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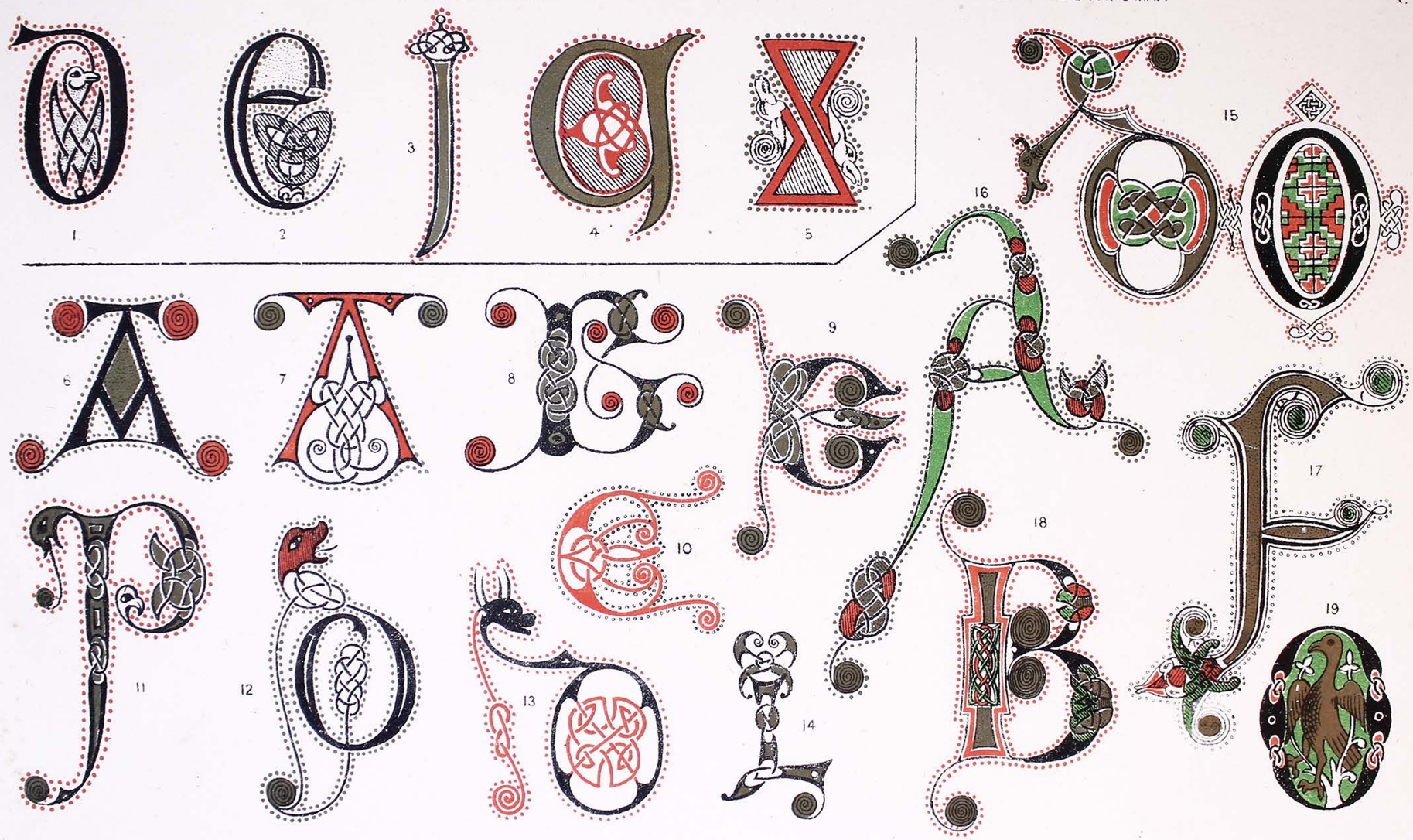
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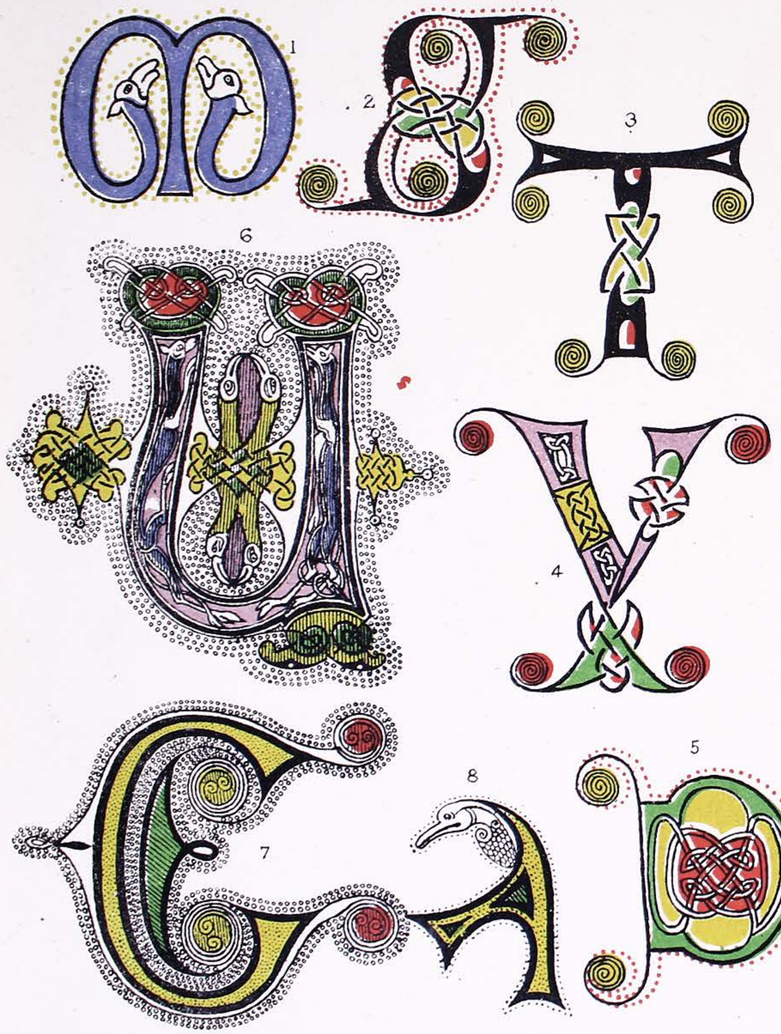
7TH CENTURY.



8TH CENTURY.

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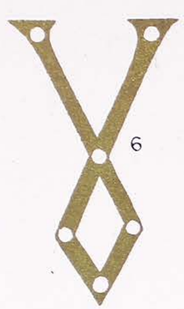
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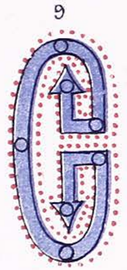
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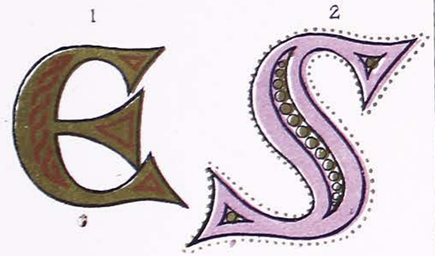
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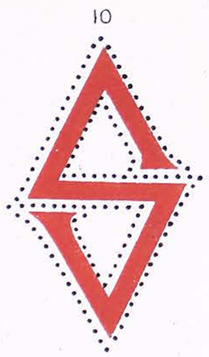
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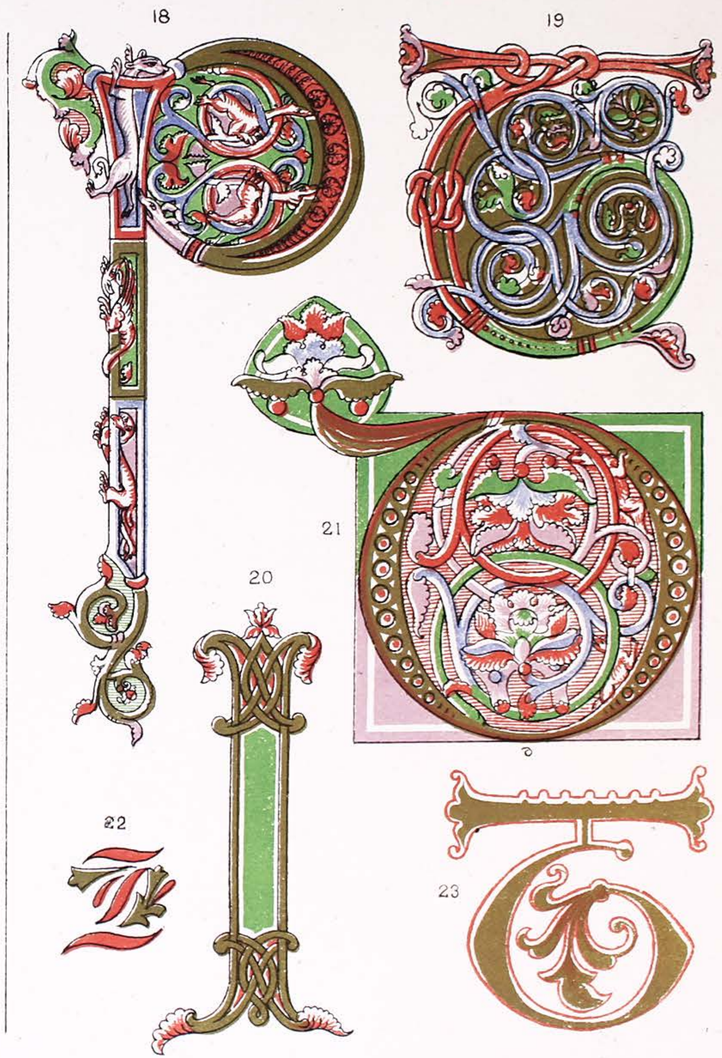
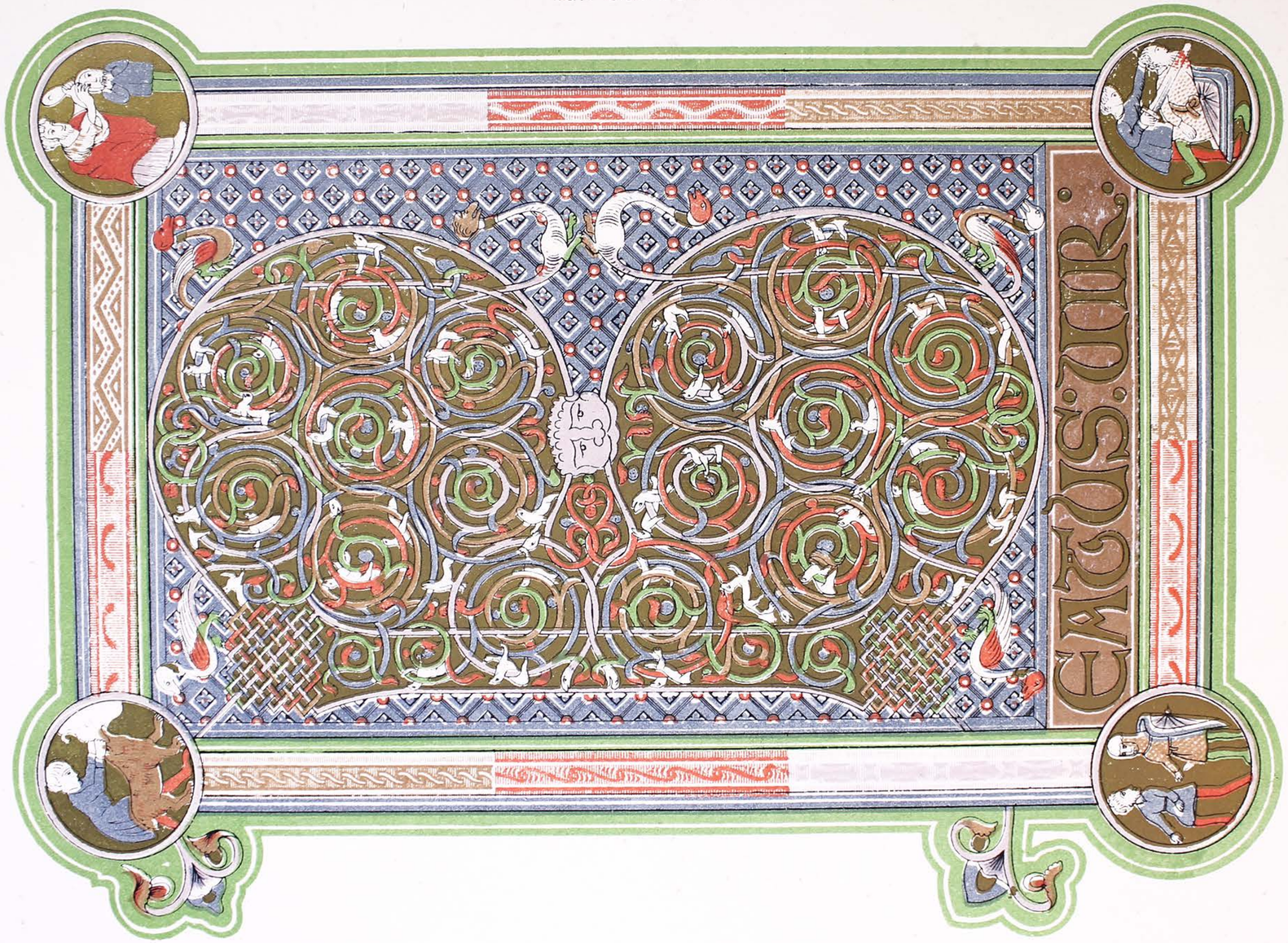
11TH CENTURY.

12TH CENTURY.

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12TH CENTURY.

13TH CENTURY

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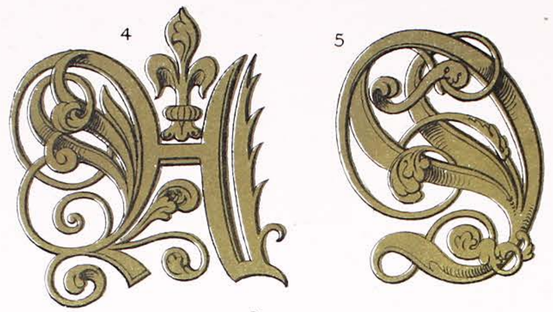
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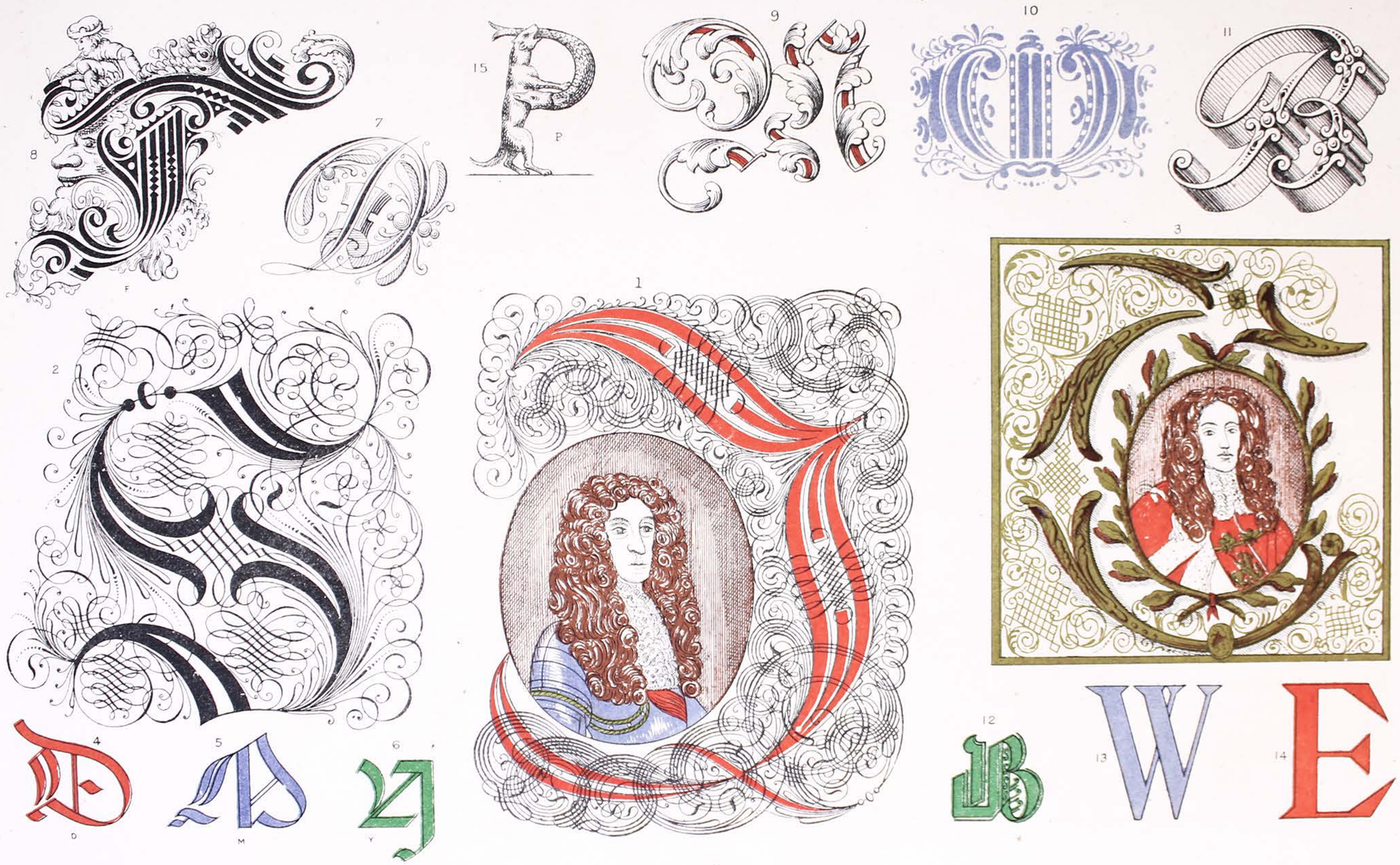
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HAND BOOK
OF
Manuscript Missal and Commentary ALPHABETS.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN ERA TO THE 17TH CENTURY.

CONTAINING 155 EXAMPLES.

1ST TO 4TH CENTURY.

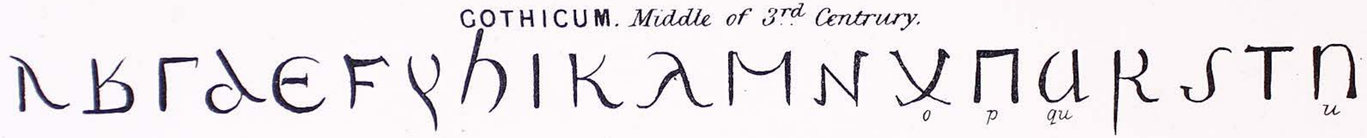
LATIN. *Beginning of the Christian Era.*

EARLY CHRISTIAN. *Fragments of Glass, from the Catacombs of Rome. B. Museum.*

ANCIENT BRITISH. *Alphabet of the Monks.*

LATINUM. *Middle of 3rd Century.*

COTHICUM. *Middle of 3rd Centrury.*



EARLIEST GOTHIC.

LATIN. *A.D. 306.*

GOTHIC. *Invented by Ulphilas Bishop of the Goths. A.D. 388.*

5TH CENTURY.

LATIN. *A.D. 400.*

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTUXY

EARLY CHRISTIAN. *From a Patera of Glass, S. Kensington Museum. 4th or 5th Century.*

ABCDEFGILMNOPRSTVZ ACEGILNSV

ROMAN. *From a Diptych. S. Kensington Museum. 4th or 5th Cent.*

ABCDEGILMNOPRSTVX

LATIN. *M.S. Bodleian Library, Beginning of 5th Cent.*

abcdefghilmnopqrstuvxyyz

ROMAN. *Royal Library Paris. 5th Cent.*

ABCEFHILMNOPRSTUX

SAXON. *Date about 450.*

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPRSTDVXYZ

a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p cu r s t dh u x y z

FRANCO GALLIC. *5th Cent.*

abcdefghilmnopqrstuxyz

FRENCH. *5th Cent.*

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTVXY

a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r s t u x y

5TH TO 6TH CENTURY.

ROMAN RUSTIC. *M.S. Abbey St. Germains. 5 Century.*

ABCDEGHILMNOPQRSTUX

ROMAN. *A.D. 498.*

ABCDEFGHILMNOPQRSTUX

M.S. Bodleian Library. 5th or beginning of 6th Cent.

AAABCDDEFGHJKLMNOPQRSTQUXY XX

LATIN. *A.D. 500.*

ABCDEFGHTRLMNOPQRSTUXY

BYZANTINE. *From a Diptych. S. Kensington Museum. A.D. 516.*

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTVWXYZ ACEHLVX

ANGLO SAXON. *M.S. of the Gospels. Bodleian Library. 6th Cent.*

AABCCDEFGHJLM

NHOPQRSSTUY

M.S. Bodleian Library. 6th Cent

AABCDEEFGHILMNOPRSTTVVX

6TH TO 7TH CENTURY.

LOMBARD. *6th Century.*

ROMAN SAXON. *Beginning 7th Cent.*

M.S. Harleian Library, 7th Cent.

ABCDEFGHILMNOPQRSTTUZ

LATIN. *7th Cent.*

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTUX

St Augustine Psalter – Cottonian M.S. A.D. 600-700.

ABCDEEFGHILMMNOPQRSTUYXY

BYZANTINE. *From a Diptych, S. Kensington Museum. 7th Cent.*

ABCDEGHIKLNOPRSTVX

7TH TO 8TH CENTURY.

SAXON. *Cottonian Library. 7th Century.*

ALDEFIMNOQRSUT

ROMAN SAXON. *End of 7th Cent.*

abcdeefghilmnopqrstuxyz.

ROMAN SAXON. *End of 7th Cent.*

a a a b b c d d e e f f g h i l m m n n n o p q r s t u u x x

St Cuthberts Gospels. B. Museum. Beginning of 8th Cent.

ABCDEFGHILMNOPQRSTUX

A.D. 700 . 800.

ABCDEFGHILMNOPQRSTUXZ

LOMBARDIC. *M.S. Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. 8th Cent.*

ABCDEFILMNOPQRSTUX

NUMERALS. *A.D. 600 . 700.*

1234567890 — 1234567890

8TH TO 9TH CENTURY.

From the Vatican Library. 8th Century.

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTVUXYZ

From a Copy of the Four Gospels in the Royal Library. 8th Cent.

AEEHIILMNHNHPUT

8th Cent.

AABCCDDEEFGHIILMMNOPQRTUYX

8th Cent.

AAAabBCCDDDEEEFFGGHHIILLLMMMNNO

PQQRRRSSTTUUVXXYYZZ

A. D. 818.

AABCDEEFFGHIKLLMMNOPQRSTUXZ

Psalter of Alfred the Great. A.D. 880.

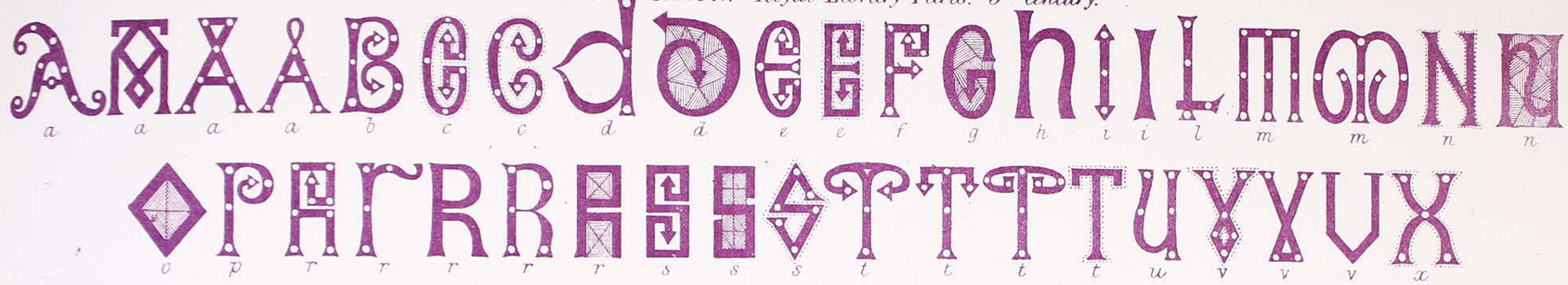
ABCDEFILMNNOPQRSTUXV

NUMERALS *8th Cent.*

I·II·III·U·VI·VII·VIII·IX·X·

9TH TO 10TH CENTURY.

FRANCO SAXON. *Royal Library Paris. 9th Century.*



SAXON RUNNING HAND. *Bodleian Library. 9th Cent.*

SAXON RUNNING HAND. *M.S.C.C.C. Cambridge. (about A.D. 891.)*

Royal M.S. British Museum. 10th Cent.

NUMERALS. *9th Cent*

10TH TO 11TH CENTURY.

A.D. 940 to 960.

aaæbcdefghiklmnopqprstuxyyz

SAXON RUNNING HAND. *St Augustins Revelations by Command of St Dunstan. 10th Cent.*

AAdBbCDDDEEEFFGGhhIIKLMMNOPPQQRRSTUVXY

ELEGANT SAXON. *M.S. Bodleian Lib. A.D. 985.*

ADEFHIMLRT

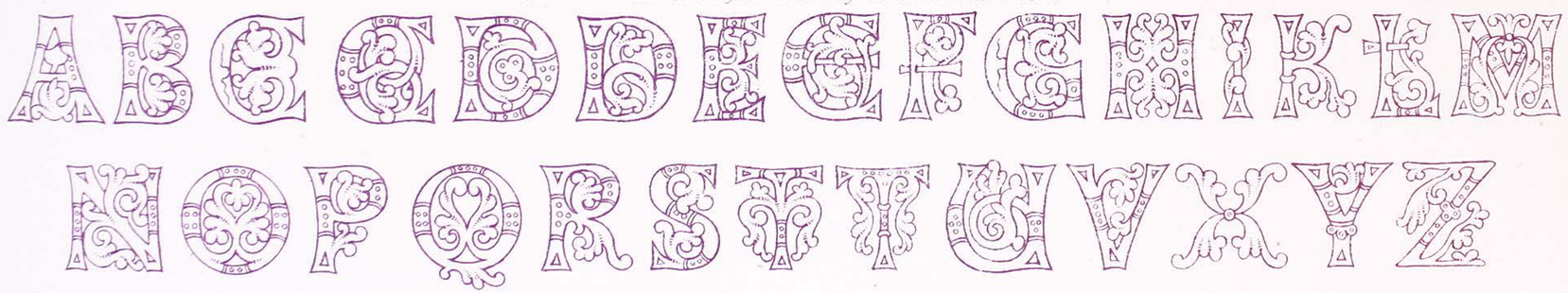
ELEGANT SAXON. *From a Book of Homilies. Lambeth Lib. 10th Cent.*

ABCEIKLMNORSTY

NORMAN. *M.S. Cottonian Library, 11th Cent.*

AAABCCDEEEEFFGHHHHHIIKLMMNNOPRSSSTTUU

GERMAN. *M.S. Royal Library Munich. 11th Cent.*

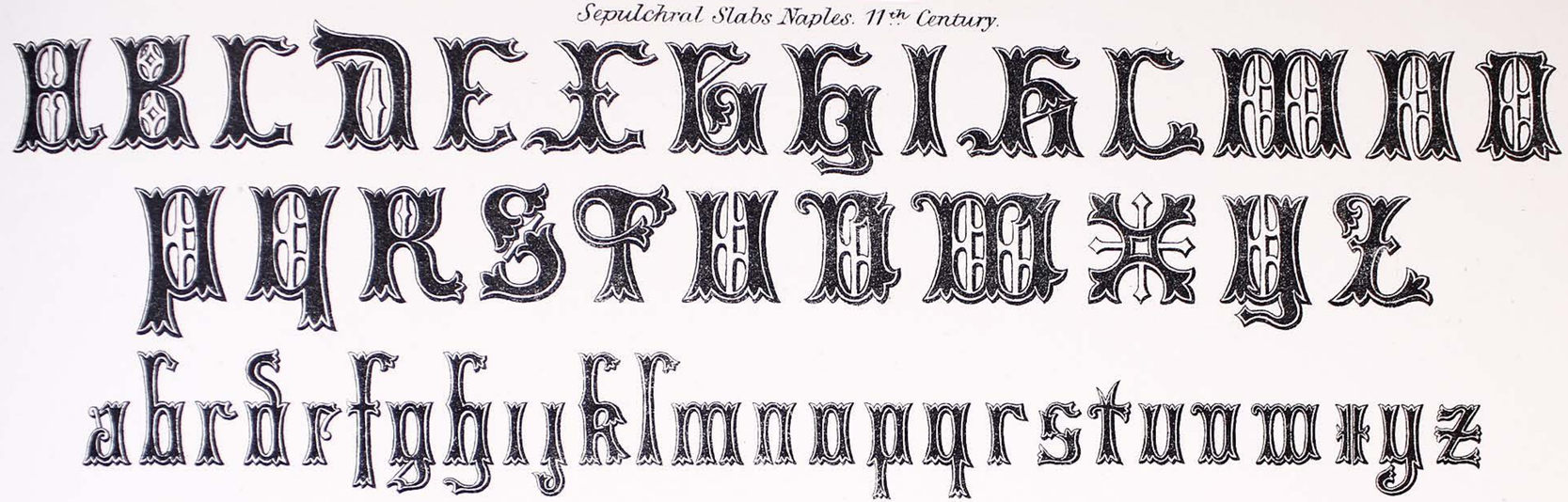


Tomb of Gundreda Sister of William the Conqueror in Southover Church, Lewes. Date 1085.

ABCDEEFGhIKLMNOPQRSTVX

11TH TO 12TH CENTURY.

Sepulchral Slabs Naples. 11th Century.



M. S. Royal Library, Munich. 12th Cent.

12th CENTURY.

M. S. Royal Library, Munich. 12th Century.

ABCDEFGHIKLLMNOPQRSTUWXYZ

Cardinal Mazarins Bible. Roy. Lib. Paris. 12th Cent.

AABCDEFGHIJLMNN
OPQRSTUVXXZZ

12th Century

abcdefghiklmnopqrstuwxyz

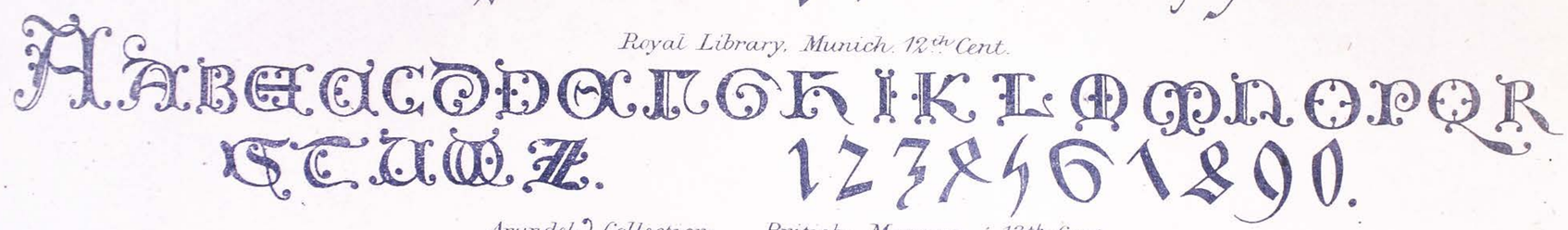
Royal M. S. British Museum. 12th Cent.

ABCDOEEFGHIKLMNN
OPQRSTUVXYZ

12TH & 13TH CENTURY.

Harleian M.S. about 1190.

Royal Library, Munich. 12th Cent.



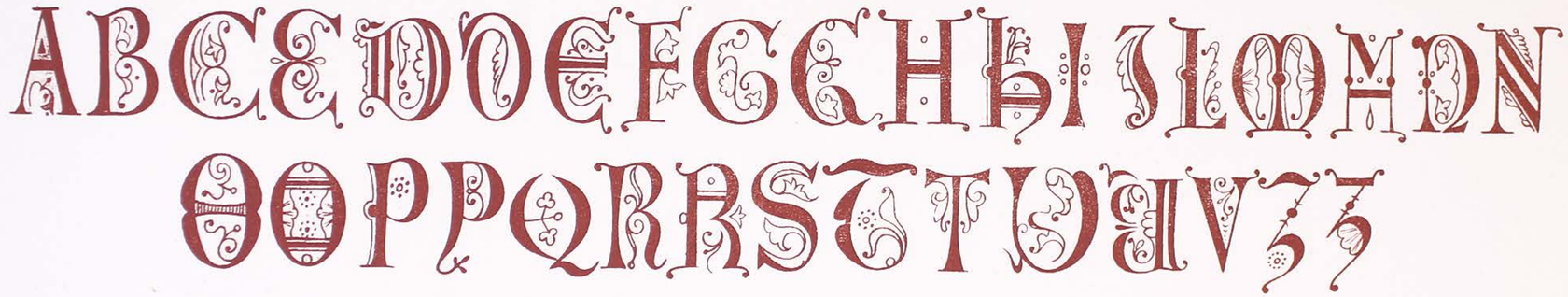
Arundel Collection. British Museum. 13th Cent.

M.S. Brit. Museum. 13th Cent.

13TH. CENTURY.

13th Cent.

ITALIAN. *13th Cent.*



Tomb of Henry 3rd Westminster Abbey. 13th Cent.

13TH CENTURY.

M.S. 13th Century.

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghiklmnopqrstuvxyz

Sepulchral Inscriptions at Vienna, 13th & 14th Cent.

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTUWXYZ

13th Century.

1234567890

13th Century.

1234567890

M.S. 13th & 14th Century.

ABCDEFGHIJKLM
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Various M.S. 1300 & 1400.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO
PQRSTUVWXY

1300 & 1400

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Sepulchral Inscriptions at Vienna 13th & 14th Cent.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP
QRSTUVWXYZ

SPANISH. *M.S. British Museum. A.D. 1300-1400*

ABCDEFGHILMNOPQRSTUY

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvy

CHURCH TEXT. *14th Cent.*

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN

OPQRSTUVWXYZ

From an Altar Cloth at the Church of St Mary, Soest, Westphalia. 14th Cent.

A B C D E F G H I K L M N

O P Q R S T V X Y Z

14th Cent.

abcdefghiklmnopqrstv

14TH CENTURY.

A.D. 1340.

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQRSTUWXYZ

From a Brass in Lübeck Cathedral. 14th Cent.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO
PQRSTVWXYZ

M.S. Hunterian Museum. Glasgow. A.D. 1385.

AABBCCDEEFFGGHHIIKKLMNN
OOPPQRRSSTTVUXYZZ

COMMON CHANCERY. *End of 14th Cent.*

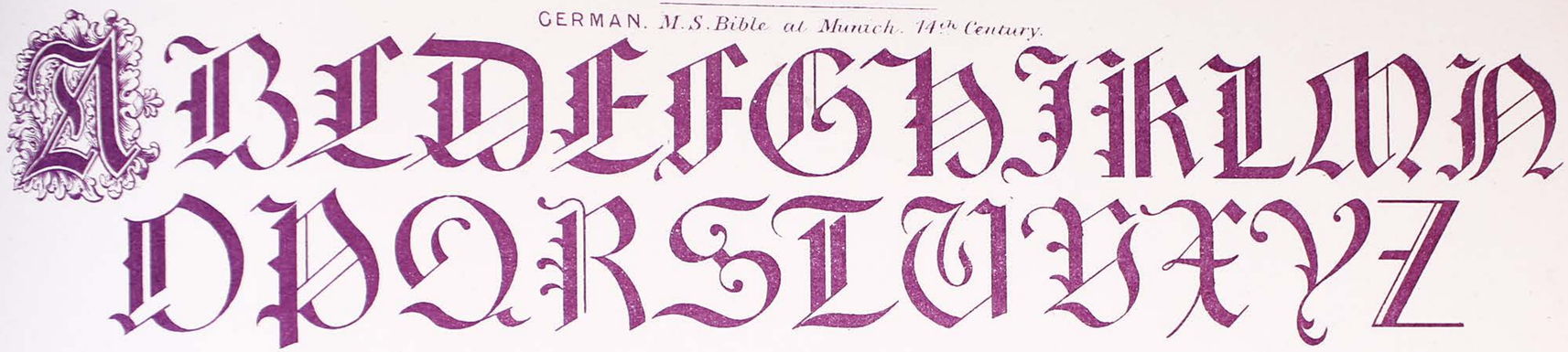
AaBbCccDddEeeFffGggHhhIijKkkLlmMmNnOoo
PppQqqRrrSsstTttUuvWwwXxyz.

SET CHANCERY. *End of 14th Cent.*

AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIijKkLlMmNnOo
PpqQqRrsSsTtUuvWwXxYyZz

14TH TO 15TH CENTURY.

GERMAN. *M.S. Bible at Munich. 14th Century.*



14th Century.

Lübeck Cathedral. 15th Cent.

M.S. British Museum. 1400-1500

15TH CENTURY.

Tomb of Richard 2nd Westminster Abbey. Date 1400.

AABCDEFGHIJKLM
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghiklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Date about 1400.

ABCDEFGHIJKL
MNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghiklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

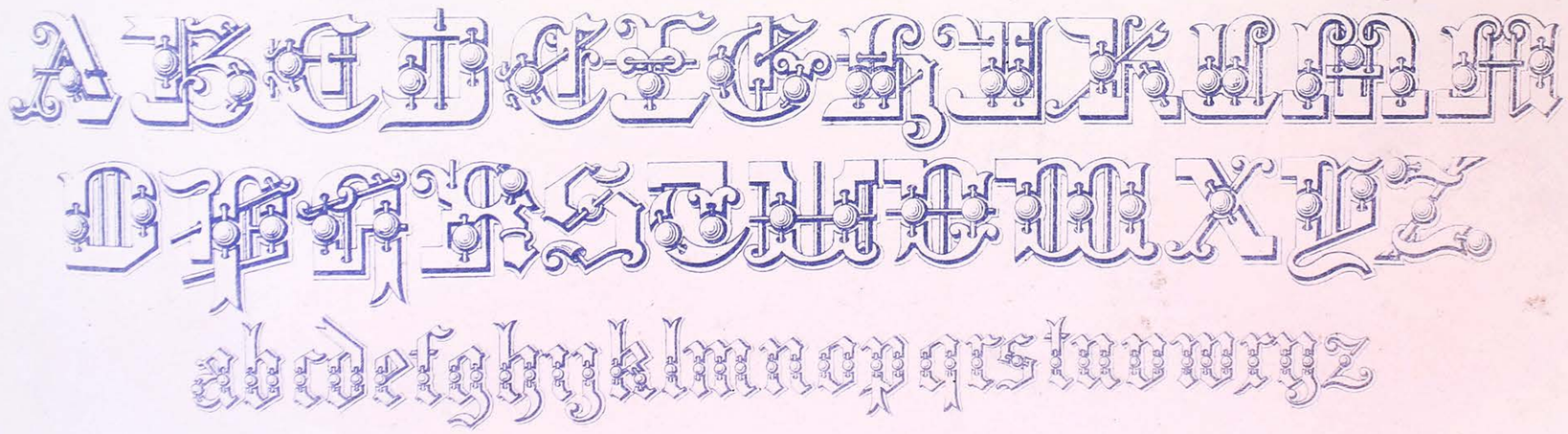
British Museum. 14th & 15th Cent.

15TH CENTURY.

ITALIAN. *M. S. Bible at Venice. 15th Century*

15th Century

ITALIAN. *15th Cent.*



15TH CENTURY.

M. S. South Kensington Museum. A.D. 1400–1500.

ABCDEFGHIJLMNOPQRSTUVW

aabcdefghilmnopqrsstuvry

15th Cent.

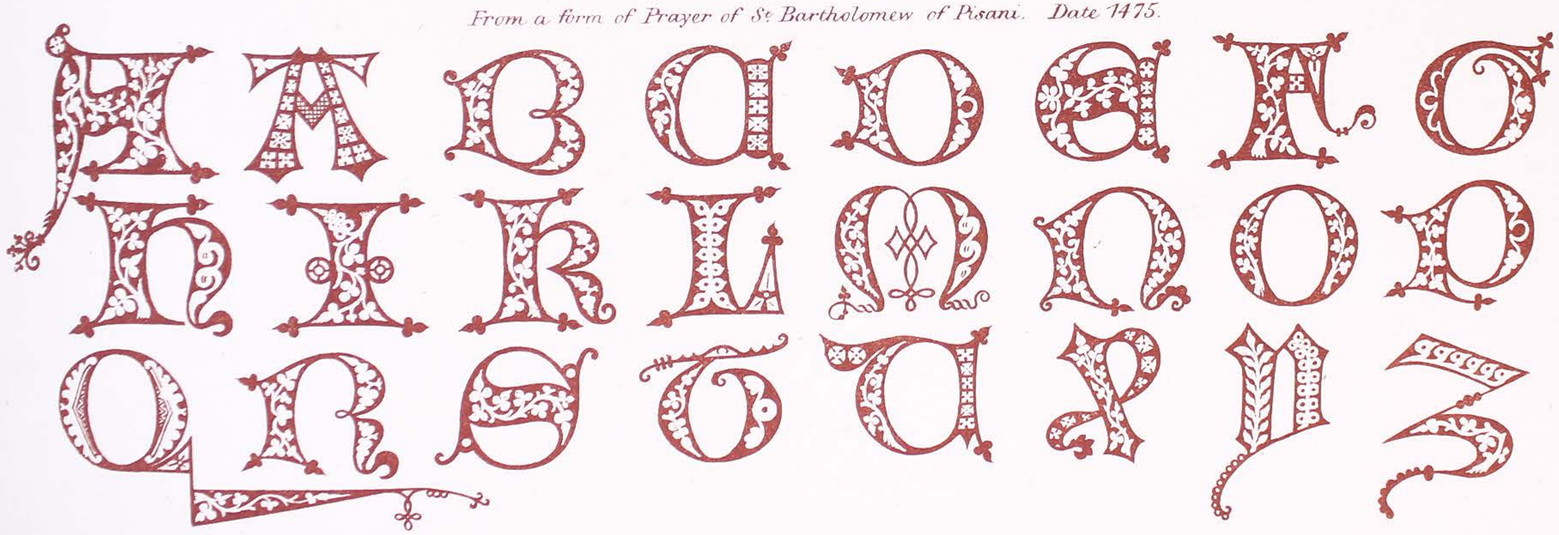
123456789

M. S. South Kensington Museum. A.D. 1400–1500.

ABCDEFGHIJLMNOPQRSTYZ

abcdefghilmnopqrstuvwyz

From a form of Prayer of St Bartholomew of Pisani. Date 1475.



15TH CENTURY.

From a Pontificale of John 2nd Archbishop of Treves. About 1480.

M.S. British Museum about 1470.

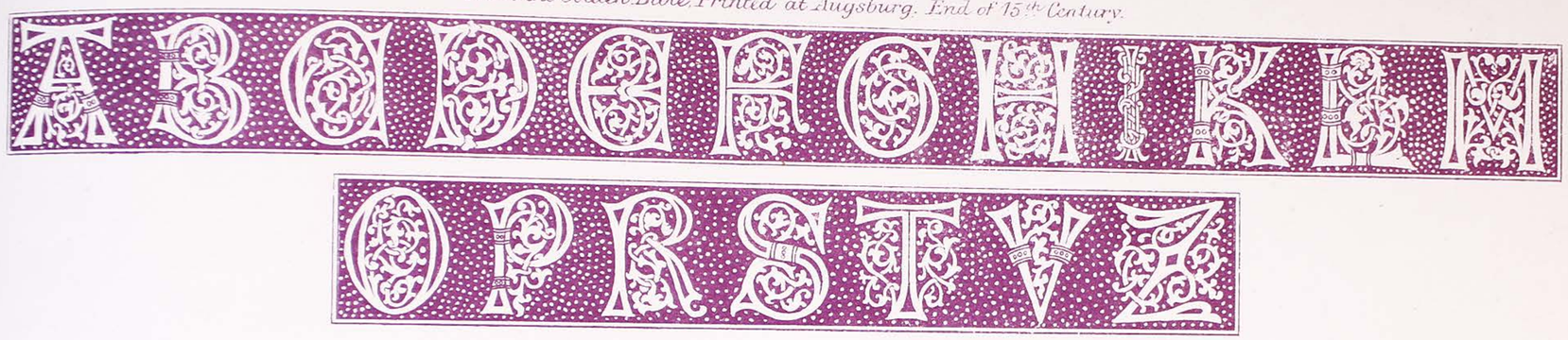
M.S. 15th Century

From a Benedictionate Date about 1480.

British Museum 14th & 15th Cent.

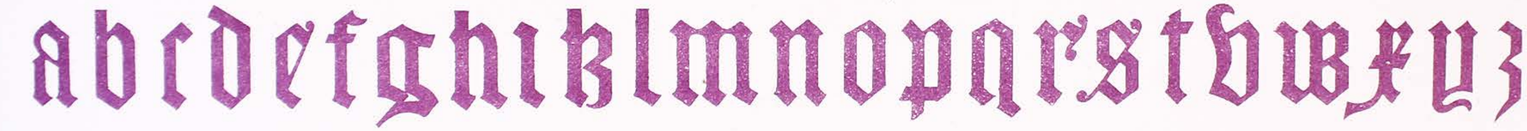
abcdefghiklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

From the Golden Bible, Printed at Augsburg. End of 15th Century.



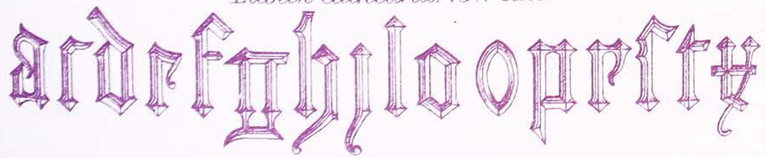
From Monumental Brasses. Latter part of 15th Cent.

From Monumental Brasses. Latter part of 15th Cent.



End of 15th Cent.

Lubeck Cathedral. 15th Cent.



From a Sundial in Erfurt Cathedral. Year 1498.

End of 15th Century.

ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPQR
STUXYZ.

From Monumental Brasses. End of 15th Cent.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzt

Tomb of Henry 7th Westminster Abbey. 15th & 16th Centuries.

ABCDEFGHIK
KLMNOPQRST
UVWXYZ

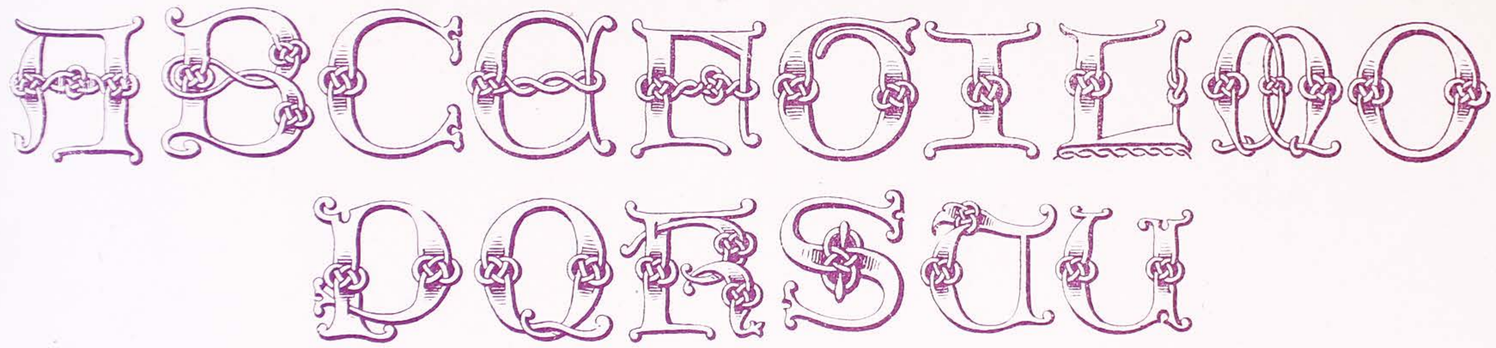
Begining 16th Cent.

abcdefghiklmnopqrstuvwxyz

16TH CENTURY.

From a Missal. British Museum. Date 1515.

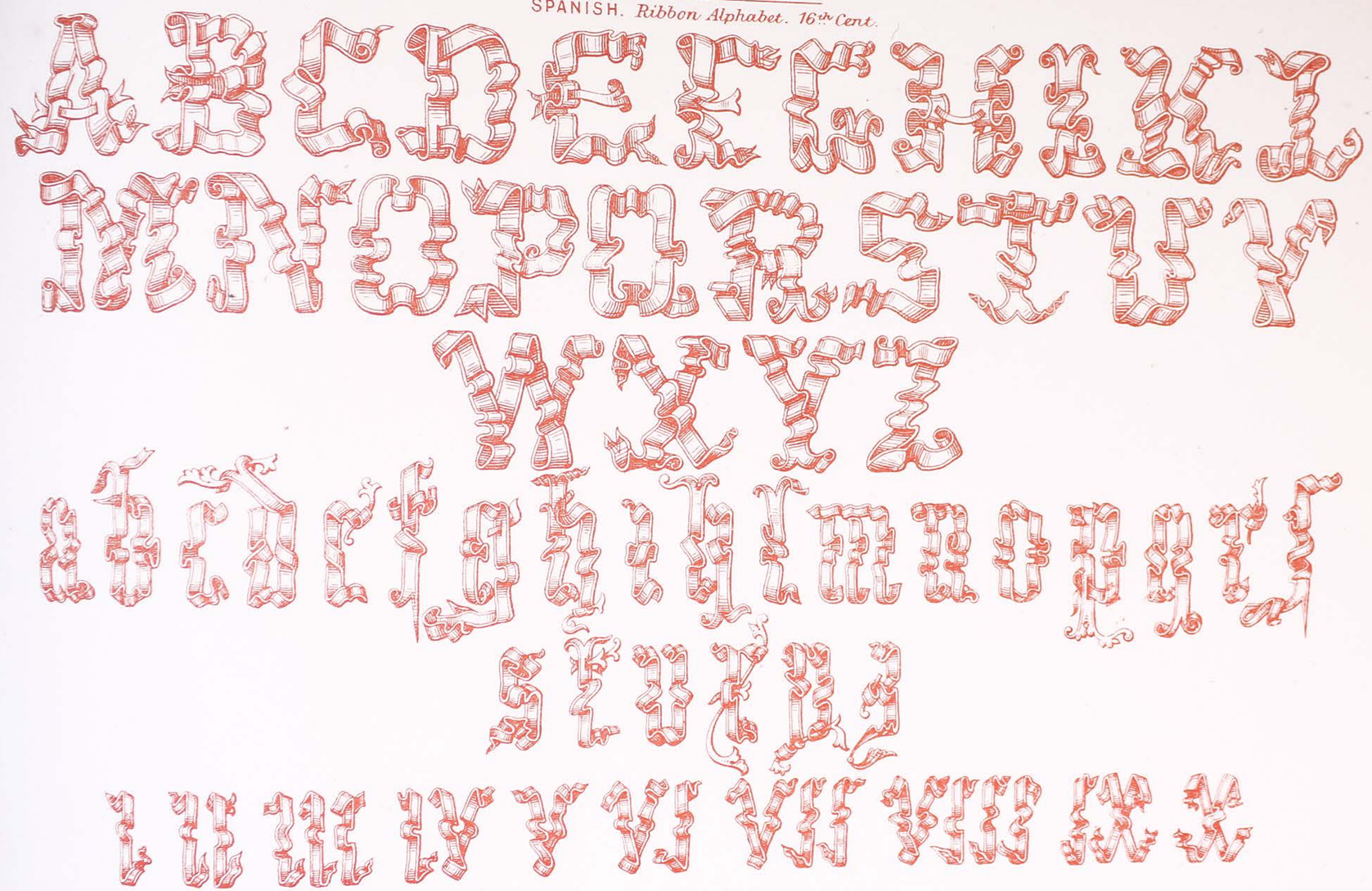
History of Perceval de Gallois. Date 1530.



SECRETARY HAND. *16th Cent.*

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo
Pp Qq Rr Ss Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

SPANISH. *Ribbon Alphabet. 16th Cent.*



16TH CENTURY.

COURT HAND OR EXCHEQUER TEXT. *Middle of 16th Cent.*

FRENCH. *Gothic. 16th Cent.*

16th CENTURY.

GERMAN. *From a Bible Printed at Wittenberg. A.D. 1500-1600.*

ABCDEFGHLMNOP
RSTVWX3

ITALIAN. *From a Papal Bull. 16th Cent.*

ITALIAN. *16th Cent.*

16th CENTURY.

ELIZABETHAN. *16th Century.*

ABCDEFGHIKLMN
OPRSTVWXYZ&

GERMAN. *Gothic Monumental Inscriptions. 16th Cent.*

abcdefghiklmnopqrstvxyz

FRENCH. *M.S. 16th Cent.*

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSC
12345 UVWXYZ. 67890
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvxyzz

GERMAN. *Royal Bible at Munich, 16th Cent.*

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN
OPQRSTUVXYZ

abcdefghiklmnopqrstüvxnz

FLEMISH. *Gothic, 17th Cent.*

ABCDEFGHIKLMN
OPQRSCUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

VENETIAN. *17th Century.*

A BOUGHTRIM PORTEUX

ITALIAN. *From a Missal of Cardinal Cornelius. Minerva Library, Rome. 17th Cent.*

AA BB CC DD EE FF GG HH II

KK LL MM NN OO PP QQ RR SS

SS TT UU VV XX YY YZ.

HAND BOOK OF Plain and Ornamental ALPHABETS.

ROMAN CAPITALS
Do SMALL
Do FIGURES
ITALIC CAPITALS
Do SMALL
Do FIGURES
SCRIPT CAPITALS
Do SMALL
Do FIGURES

OPEN STONE
GERMAN TEXT CAPITALS
Do SMALL
ITALIAN CAPITALS
Do SMALL
ORNAMENTAL CAPITALS
Do Do
OLD ENGLISH CAPITALS
Do SMALL

GOTHIC CAPITALS
Do SMALL
ENGROSSING CAPITALS
Do SMALL
COURT HAND CAPITALS
Do SMALL
CHURCH TEXT CAPITALS
Do SMALL
GERMAN SCRIPT CAPITALS

GERMAN SCRIPT SMALL
RUSSIAN CAPITALS
GREEK CAPITALS
Do SMALL
HEBREW
CIPHERS
MONOGRAMS
ILLUMINATED INITIALS
Do Do

ROMAN PRINT

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

OPQRSTUVWXYZ. &c.

1234567890 ✻ 1234567890

ITALIC PRINT

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

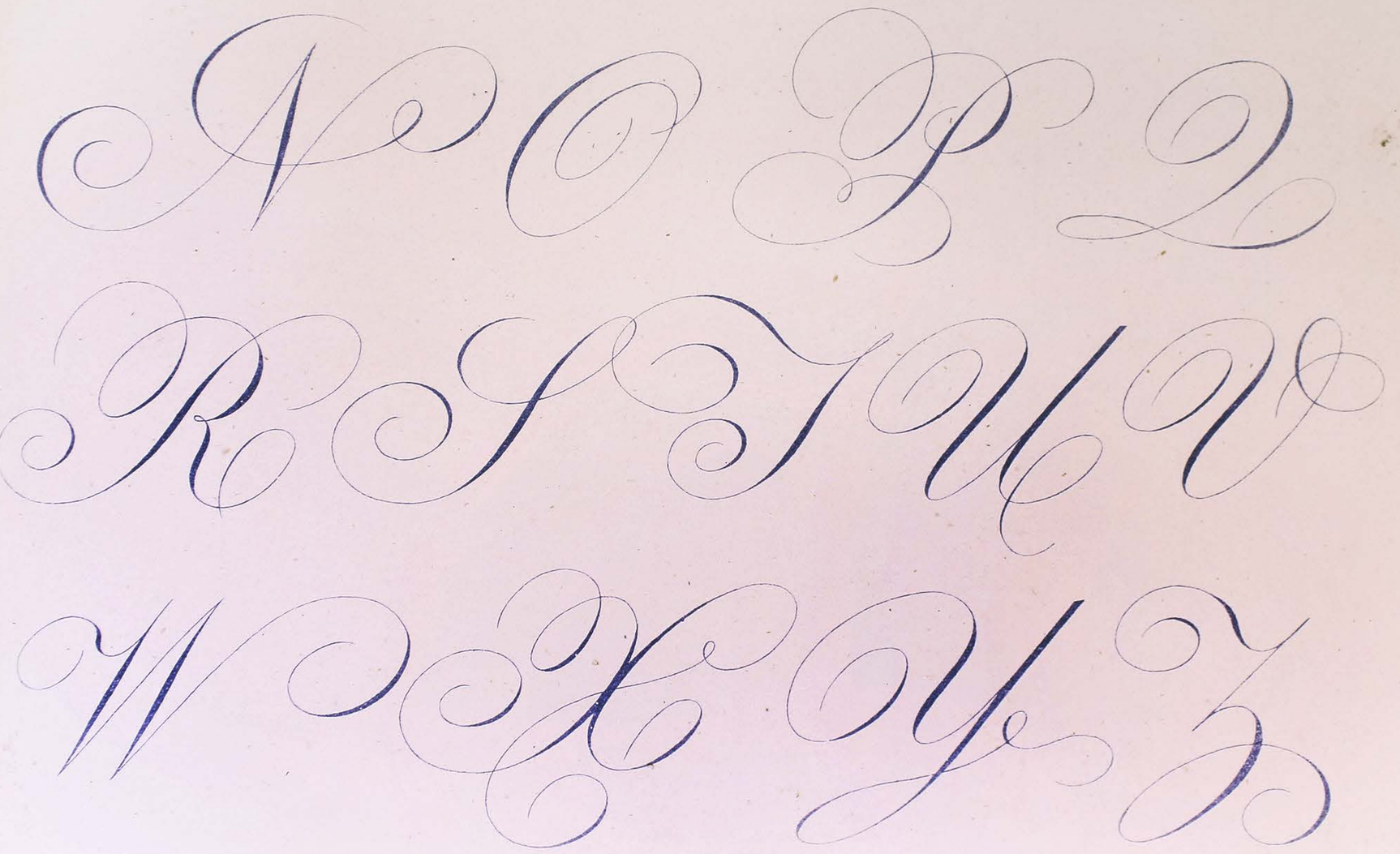
OPQRSTUVWXYZ. &c.

SCRIPT CAPITALS

A B C D

E F G H

I K L M


N O P Q
R S T U V
W X Y Z

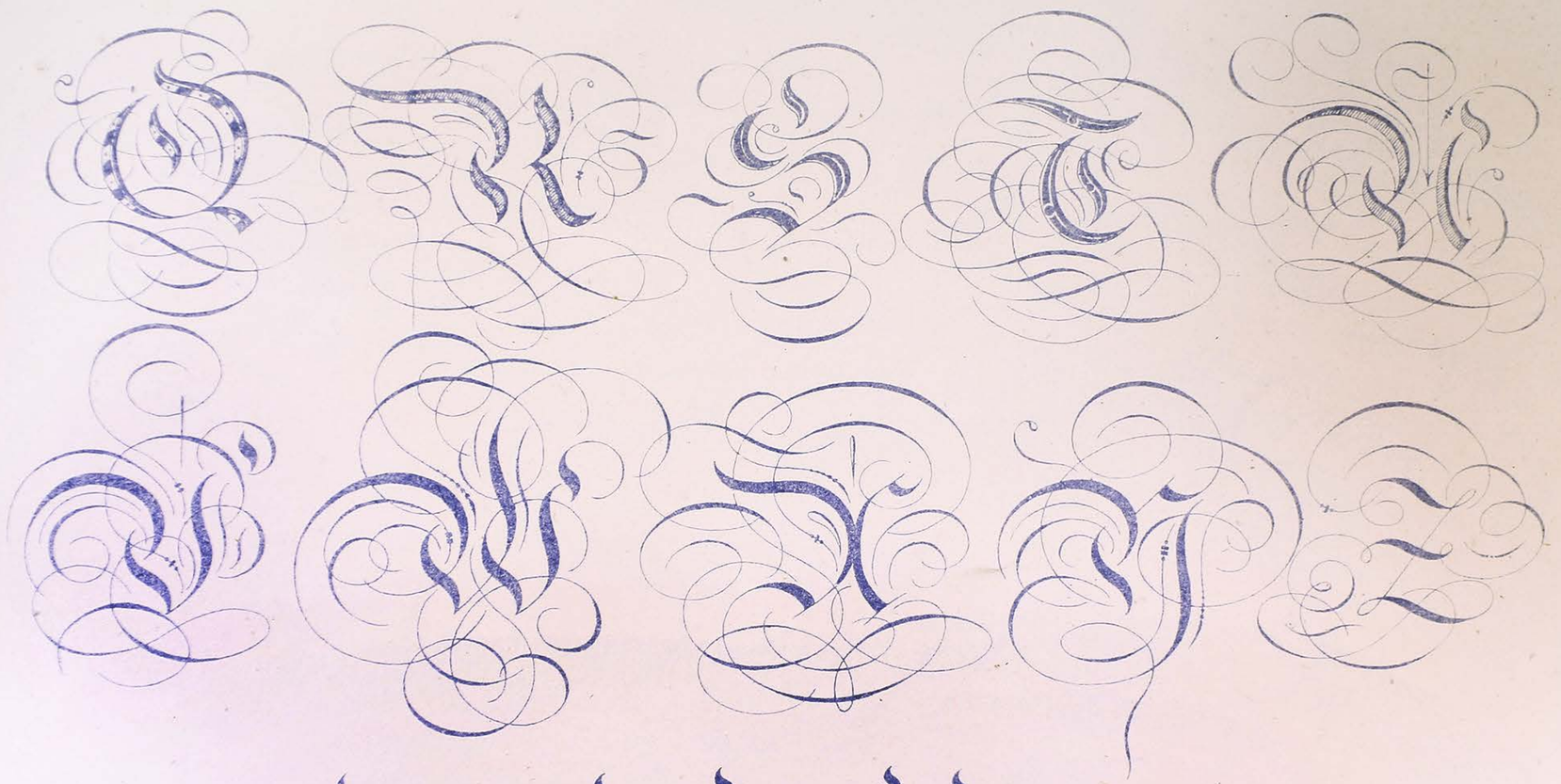
SCRIPT SMALL

abcdefghijklmnopqrs
tuvwxyz.

OPEN STONE

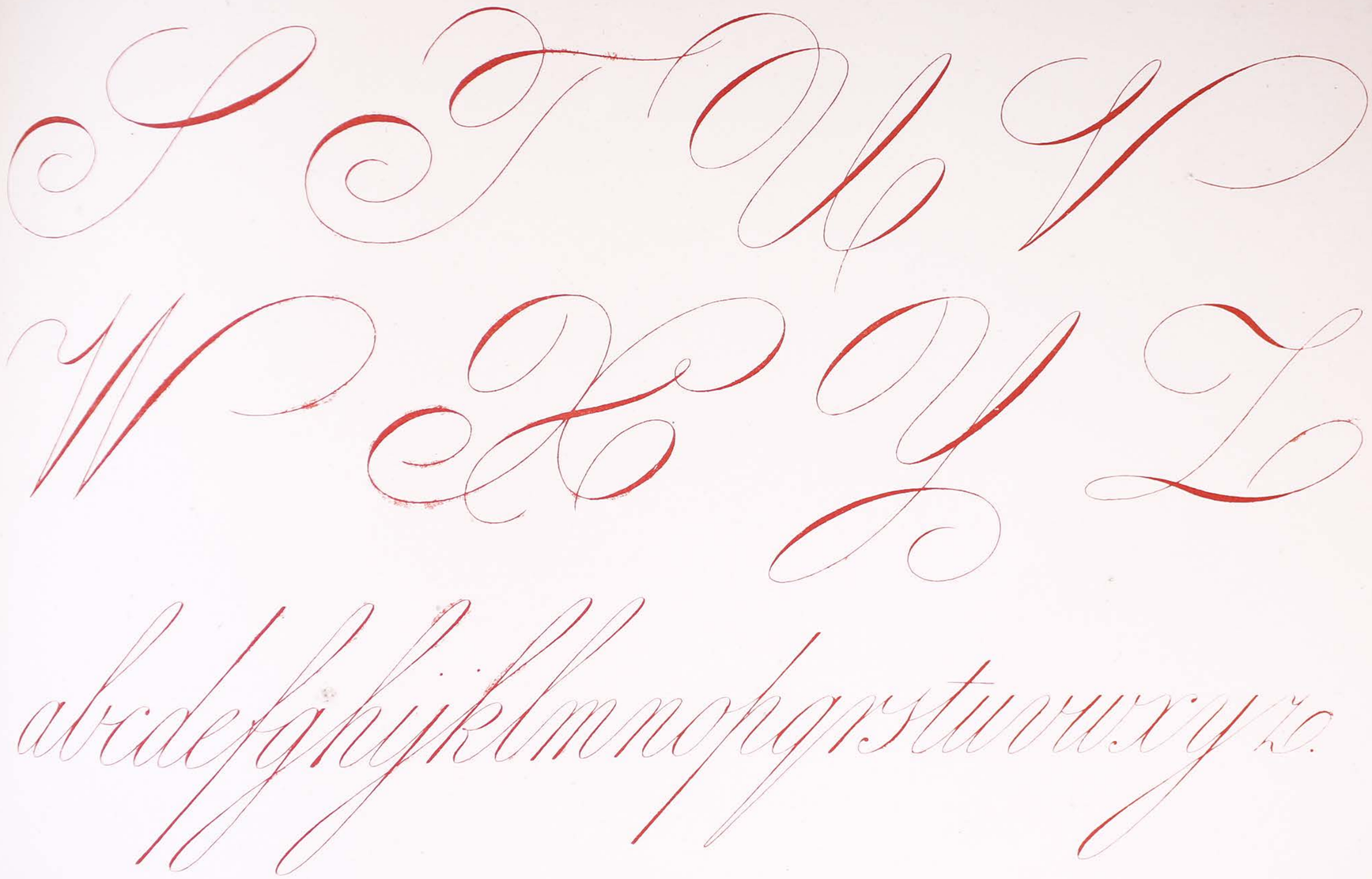
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP
QRSTUVWXYZ. &
1234567890

ABCDE
FGHIJK
LMNOP

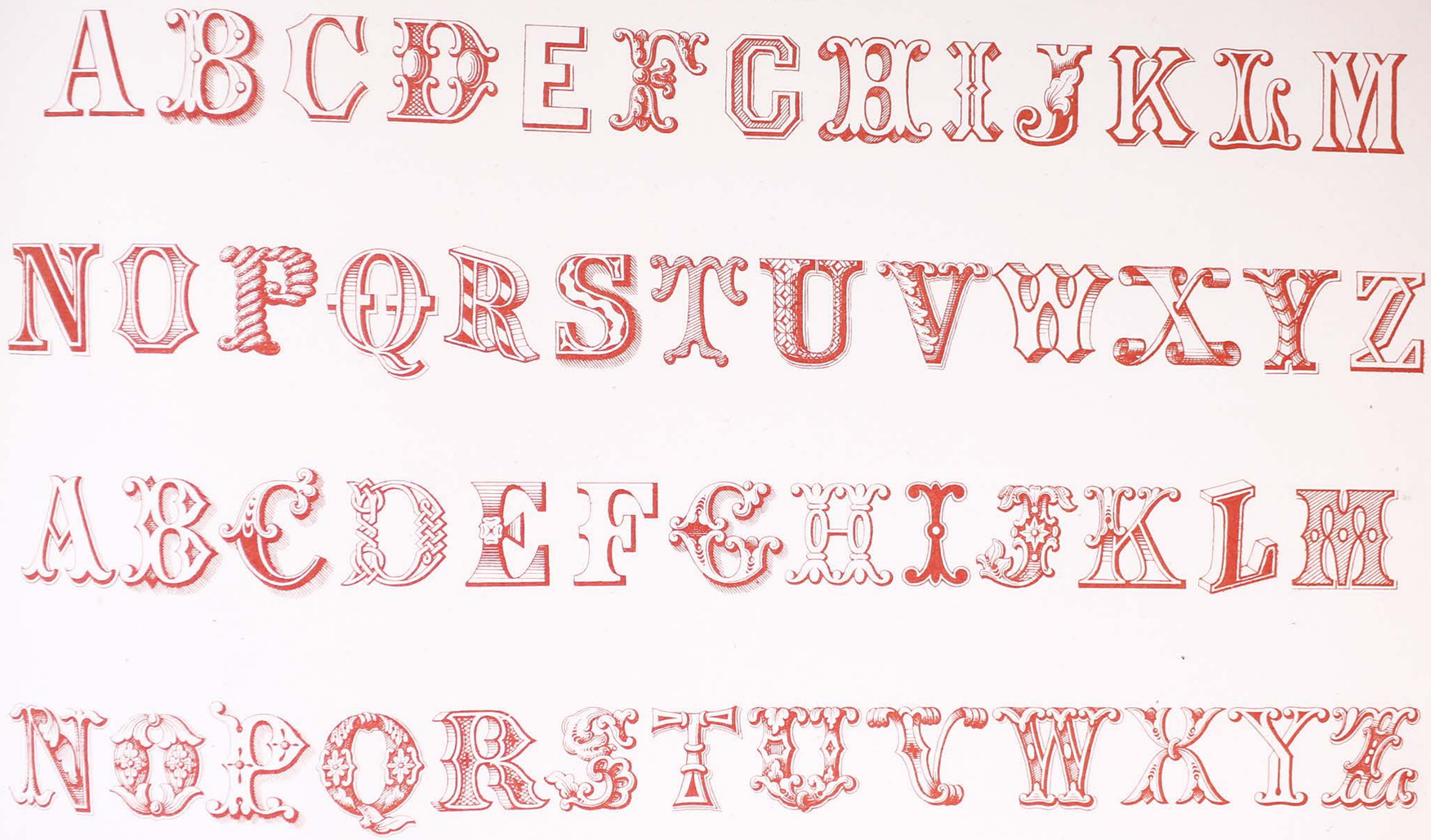


abcdefghijklmnopq
rstuvwxyz.

A B C D
E F G H I
K L M N
O P Q R


abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

ORNAMENTAL


ABCDEFGHIJKLM
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ABCDEFGHIJKLM
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ

OLD ENGLISH

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.

PQRSTUVWXYZ.&

GOTHIC

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

PQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.
RSTUVWXYZ.

COURT HAND

ABCDEFGHI
JKLMNOPQR
STUVWXYZ.
abcdefghijklmnopqrss
tuvwxyz.

GERMAN

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

RUSSIAN

АБВГДЕЖSЗИІКЛМНОПРСТ
УФХЦЧШЩЪЫЬѢЭЮЯѲV

GREEK

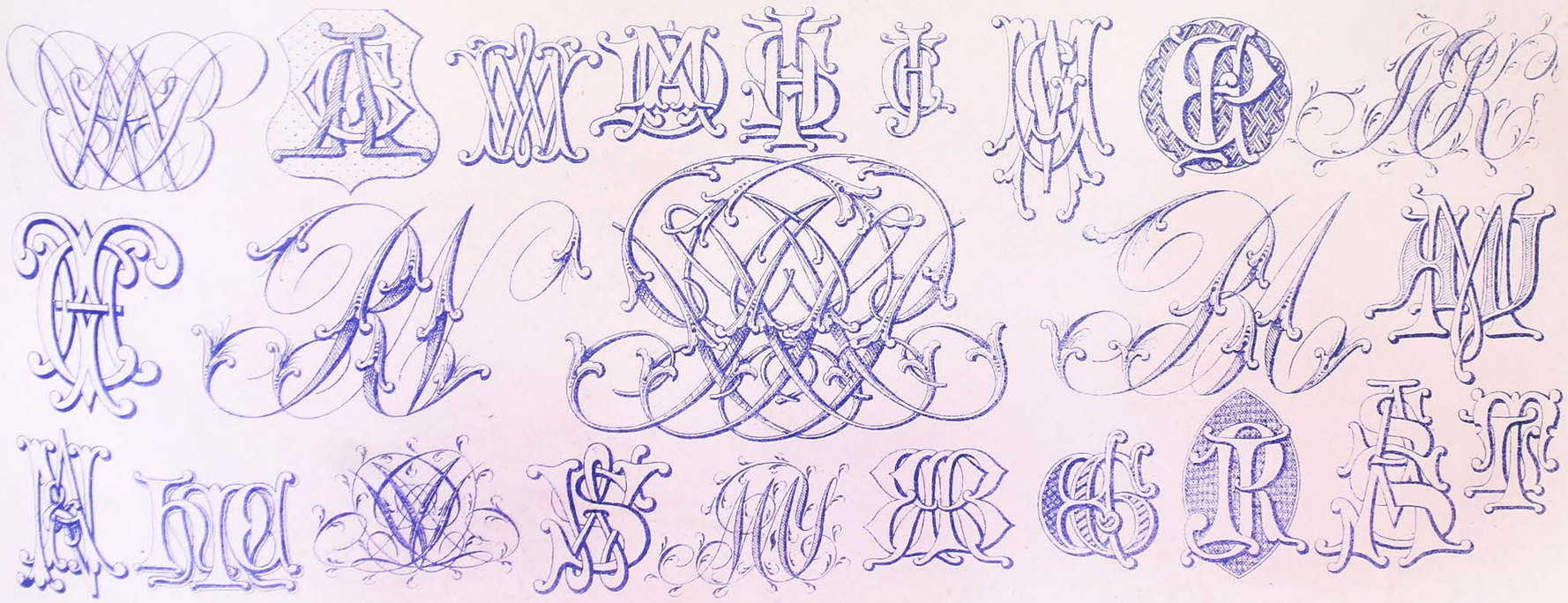
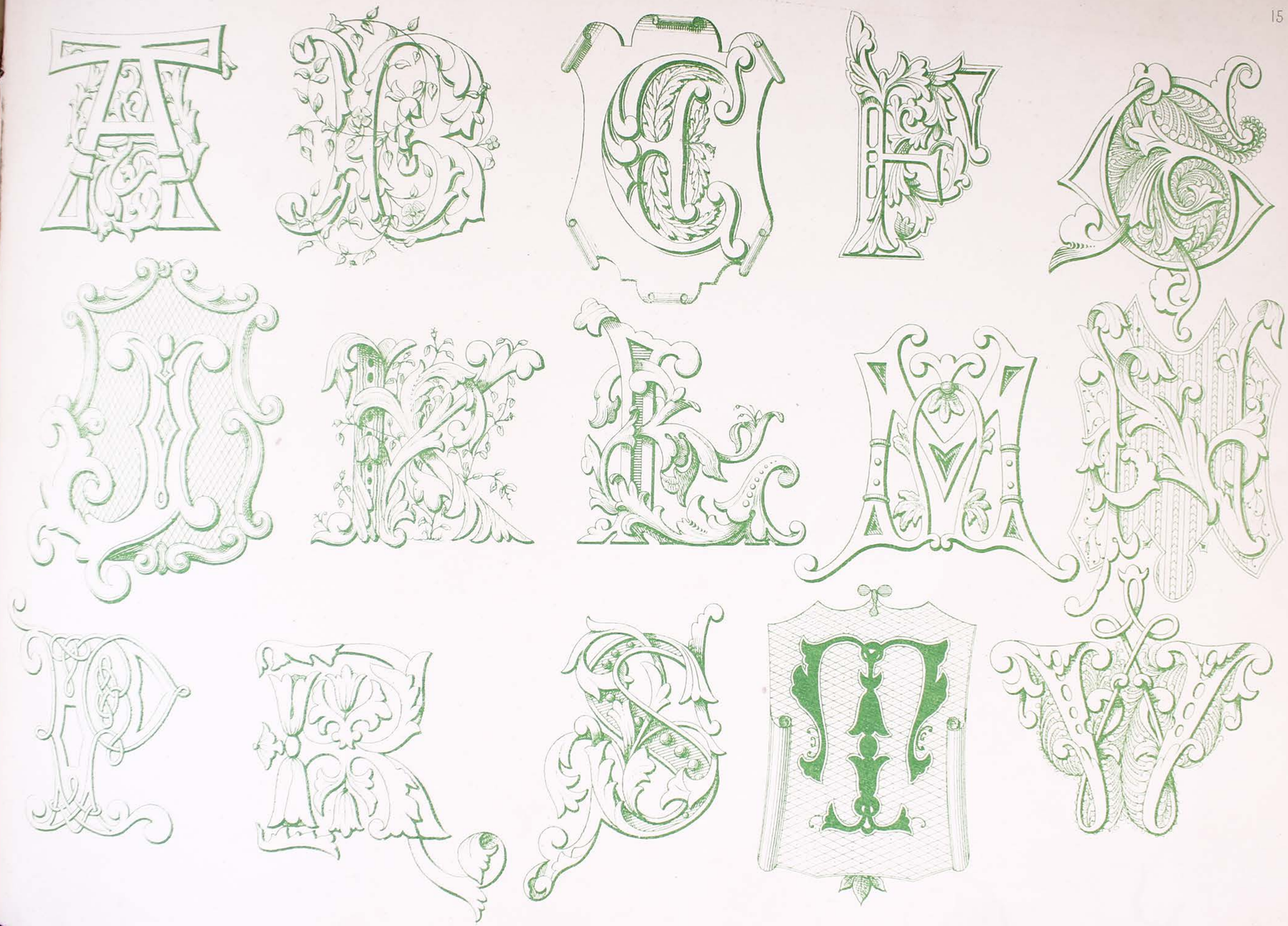
ΑΒΓΔΕΖΗΘΙΚΛΜΝΞΟΠΡ
ΣΤΥΦΧΨΩ
αβγδεζηϑθικλμνξοπϖρϱστϑυφχψω

HEBREW

These Letters represent the Hebrew numbers

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90
א	ב	ג	ד	ה	ו	ז	ח	ט	י	כ	ל	מ	נ	ס	ע	פ	צ
										1*		2*	3*			4*	5*

100	200	300	400	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*
ק	ר	ש	ת	ם	ו	ה	ן	ץ

* *These Five Letters thus marked have a different form when they stand at the end of a Word.*

CIPHERS, MONOGRAMS &c.